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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15, 1903.
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CIRCULATION DURING MARCH.

W. E. Carr, Business Manager of The St. Louis Republic, being duly sworn, says that the actual number of full and complete copies of the Daily and Sunday Republic printed during the month of March, 1903, all in regular editions, was as per schedule below:

Date	Copies	Date	Copies
1 (Sunday)	121,050	17	117,210
2	117,600	18	118,340
3	117,070	19	116,960
4	118,120	20	116,840
5	116,320	21	118,000
6	116,400	22 (Sunday)	120,740
7	118,200	23	117,130
8	122,220	24	118,150
9	117,540	25	119,570
10	117,110	26	117,980
11	117,640	27	115,880
12	117,600	28	117,900
13	117,030	29 (Sunday)	123,510
14	118,640	30	116,590
15	122,210	31	118,770
16	117,270		

Total for the month, 3,605,140.
Less all copies spoiled in printing, left over or filed, 90,538.

Net number distributed, 3,514,602.
Average daily distribution, 115,300.

And said W. E. Carr further says that the number of copies returned and reported unsold during the month of March was 633 per cent.

W. E. Carr.
Sworn to and subscribed before me this 13th day of March, 1903.

Notary Public, City of St. Louis, Mo.
My term expires April 15, 1905.

WORLD'S—1904—FAIR.

LOOKS LIKE SHREWD MANIPULATION.

To an unprejudiced outsider it looks as if shrewd Wall street bears had seen the opportunity which the merger decision created and proceeded to hammer stocks, determined on making a big speculative coup of the judgment in the Northern Securities Company case.

This view of the big break in prices on Monday seems far more reasonable than that there was any loss in the actual value of stocks. The average American was not frightened by the merger decision. He knew that it was against the monopoly system, but he saw no reason to apprehend a stock collapse because of such a decision.

But bear speculators in Wall street were undoubtedly quick to take advantage of the unexpected chance to "smash prices." They have many ways of momentarily influencing property sentiment, of creating a spirit of apprehension. There are some significant signs going to show that these means were sedulously employed. Then came the sudden raid of Monday, apparently confirming the soundness of the reasoning upon which apprehension was based. It will not be the fault of the Wall street bears in the next few days if there fails to develop a tumble in values of considerable proportions. They have the gambler's willingness to "make a winning" at whatever cost to others.

Fortunately, however, strong and conservative influences are now at work to prevent a decline in prices for which there is no reason in fact. The bears had their chance Monday and improved it to the fullest, but it is not likely that their campaign can be prolonged. The greater probability is that the merger decision has already been "worked" on Wall street for all that could be got out of it in a speculative way, and that prices will soon become steady and the market regain its normal tone.

BETWEEN THE ORGANS.

Discharging its duty as umpire between the two Republican organs The Republic finds the Star right and the Globe wrong in drawing conclusions from the legislative boodle exposures.

The Globe follows its one rule of blaming everything on a Democratic ring and pleads for release from the blame of many years of mendacious assaults on Missouri—as if it had ever done anything to warrant "I told you so."

In better spirit and with more judgment the Star says that "in this matter of boodle it is all folly to hold either one political party or the other responsible—it is the individual who is bribed, and he is just as likely to own allegiance to one party as to the other—to the minority as to the majority."

Perfectly true under the rules. It is also better party strategy, because the Globe's foolish way of putting the case compels every reader to say that if the Democratic party is responsible for boodle in Jefferson City the Republican party is responsible for boodle in St. Louis.

Another inaccuracy, involving a gross inconsistency, is chargeable to the Globe. In its slanders of Missouri little has ever been said about the Legislature, and still less about lobbyistism—the only point now at issue. The Globe's principal attack for two years has been against Governor Dockery and the State administration. Yet in all the history of the recent session Governor Dockery's name stands out white against the soiled surroundings provided by the deeds of legislative combines. Not only is he untouched by any slightest suspicion of even condoning corruption, but he is on the record again and again as protesting in messages against certain tendencies of the Legislature; and all through the winter it was a matter of daily newspaper report that the Governor and the selfish interests in the Legislature were antagonistic to the point of bitter conflict. The Governor stood up for Missouri; the Globe stood up for the Legislature.

Here, as all readers of the Globe will see, is the place for the laugh on that unconstructive organ.

At the close of the session it boastfully claimed for itself and the Republican machine all the honor of running the Legislature. The Forty-second General Assembly was congratulated affectionately on having produced the best session in decades—all because the Republican minority had led the body to break away from the Governor and run things to suit its own pleasure.

The Globe has been trapped, and by the Globe. The session was a boodle session, and the Republican minority controlled the session. The Legislature defied and ignored the Governor; the Governor has no responsibility for what the legislators did. Exactly this is what the Globe has without reservation told its readers.

So, in its "I told you so," Ananias is still Ananias, and, whether the Globe starts for the author of evil or the blue water, it stands to have trouble.

For all occasions the Star cannot be recommended as a political guide; but compared to the Globe it is Henry to Bardolph, Chatham to Bute, Bismarck to Ludwig of Bavaria, Diaz to Castro—anybody big to anybody small.

"EVEN IN PHILADELPHIA."

St. Louis will lose its reputation abroad if local organs, eager for party campaign material, continue the contemptible habit—for it is become a habit—of falsifying and exaggerating conditions relative to the municipality. The city government never was better managed and its affairs were never in better state than at present; yet an impression is growing, out of partisan slander, that the administration is composed of a gang of thieves and that the people of this city not only tolerate, but connive at, and even approve, official robbery and crimes of all kinds.

The truth as to evil acts by public servants and rich corruptionists should be told. Objection cannot be made to statements of facts. The city will not suffer from exposures of corruption or for bringing criminals, however wealthy and influential, to the bar of justice. But statements by local organs that corruption still prevails, that the present administration is debauching the public revenue, that the people fail to feel the heinousness of corruption and take no active interest in reform, is bold mendacity and a libel on the city and the citizens.

Propagation of malicious exaggerations and falsehoods, calculated to degrade the municipality, will ultimately cause the world to believe that St. Louis is without honor, that it is the home of official crime, that corruption flourishes in public and private life, that civic virtue is either dead or asleep. After awhile, whenever corruption is discovered and exposed elsewhere, it will be compared to operations that were practiced in this city several years ago, and we shall hear, with shame, comparisons such as "almost as bad as St. Louis."

The Outlook, in the issue of April 11, gives a convincing illustration of the stages by which cities arrive at utter infamy, whether deserved or not. Treating of the conviction of four men who were engaged in corrupt work in a Philadelphia ward School Board, that publication makes this significant assertion: "The conviction of these four men who thus tread in their power over women and children ought to arouse, EVEN IN PHILADELPHIA, an outpouring of wrath against the men and the system under whose control venal meanness of that sort can flourish, and should put an end to the system forever."

Without entering into the factors of the Philadelphia case referred to, or considering the attempt now being made to dispose of the Philadelphia waterworks, or looking back to the lease of the Philadelphia gas works to a private corporation, it is plain that a city can achieve notoriety from circulation of slander as well as from real corruption. Strangers cannot be blamed if they accept as true falsehoods emanating from St. Louis and putting the city in a dishonorable aspect.

The people of St. Louis are not averse to statement of truth, for truth leads to redemption, as it is now doing here. But they are rightly indignant over efforts to misrepresent the situation. They do not want to read phrases like "even in St. Louis."

Frequently in the recent past, and at least twice since the last local election, the Globe has called upon the newspapers of the country to defame St. Louis. In fact, the Globe is the chief offender against St. Louis.

During the recent campaign the Globe begged Republican voters to elect Weeke, who was Sergeant-at-Arms to the boodle House, as Delegate. Now it insinuates that crime is more common than during the last Republican administration, which brought odium on the city, and states, although it supported Weeke, that "in the city election here last week 58,000 registered voters kept away from the polls."

Many decent Republicans kept away from the polls because the Republican papers urged the cause of unfit Republican candidates. The shame is not the shame of St. Louis, nor of the voters, but of partisan organs to whom truth is foreign and slander a morsel so sweet that they cannot cast it away.

BOODLE AND SNITCHERS.

In the golden days when crime was in full flower and such goodly adventures as sifting a wallet, cutting a throat and scuttling a ship were the vogue there was a fictitious something called "honor among thieves," and the rogue who had the most "honor" was a sort of king among his brothers.

But it is likely that he governed them rather by holding them in abject terror than by compelling their respect. He was like Jack Silver with his grewsome song, "Fifteen men on a dead man's chest, and a high-bo for a bottle of rum." In those same days the "snitcher" was a sadly underrated varlet who turned King's evidence against his fellows.

A comparison of the snitcher with the supposedly "honorable" scoundrel involves a peculiar sort of ethics. In our modern, matter-of-fact view of things the snitcher is perhaps the better man of the two. The man who turns State's evidence is surely a higher being than the boodler whose only motives are to cover up crime with the object of booting again, if chance permits.

When a man unbosoms himself to the Grand Jury the fellows whom he implicates howl about "honor" and obligation to "stand by his friends." Wherein lies the obligation to sacrifice one's self for fellow thieves? When men commit a common crime can it be said that they enter into a bond of self-sacrifice? Assuredly not. The only bond which holds them is the common instinct of self-preservation. It is the first law of nature and the first law of crime; and the criminals know it.

The howl about "honor" and "obligation" is nothing more than a weak threat raised by those who were too hardened or too slow. It is part of the scheme of self-protection. It is largely evasive. The endangered suspects realize that the witness has done the wise thing for himself. He has taken the side of the people against crime. He has allied himself and his motives with the dominant motives of society.

He has, at least to the extent of appearance, aligned himself with repentance as against persistent wrongdoing, and he has the force of law, and possibly a degree of popular support, at his back. Surely by turning State's evidence he suffers no greater loss of public respect than does the suspect who, though he escapes indictment of law, is nevertheless under the indictment of public opinion.

The unpunished suspect is classed in the public

mind with the men who are tried and found guilty and sentenced to the Penitentiary. To all intents and purposes he suffers the shame of a Penitentiary sentence. The State's witness, on the other hand, does escape this blight upon his name. Owing to a natural and rightful process of the popular mind, the man who makes a clean breast clears himself in a measure.

HAMMER AWAY.

Intelligent persons familiar with local conditions and character have generally paid no heed to the charge of "shamelessness" which a sensational publication made against St. Louis. Most people have been thoroughly wearied with an assertion which had no foundation in fact. Nevertheless, the imitative followers of Mr. Lincoln Stephens, including the local Republican organs, have persistently clung to the term.

"Shamelessness" was among the numerous campaign cries of the disintegrated, guerrilla forces which opposed a respectable and businesslike administration, but granting that there had been any justification for the charge, the city acquitted itself honorably on election day. If anything or anybody required "vindication" surely the overwhelming majorities cast in support of the good-government movement were sufficient.

But again comes the cry. The untamed organs are shouting "their barbaric yaws over the roofs of the world" as before. Half a dozen Republican papers in Eastern cities, absolutely ignorant of our situation themselves, and taking their several cues from Mr. Stephens and the local "boosters," are chiming in.

Happily, St. Louis can stand it. The city is now in excellent hands, is proof against slander and is content from now on to be judged upon its merits. By its fruits it will be known. There are stages in the lives of cities as of men when the slang axiom is true of them: "Every knock is a boost." This is the case with St. Louis. The truth will force itself upon the outside world against the rather conspicuous activities of the local slander propagandists. "Knocking" now will hurt only the knocker. Hammer away.

Much of Chicago's glory followed from the praise which citizens of Chicago, out of loyalty, bestowed on their own city. They impressed on the world the resources and energy of Chicago, and the world, judging the city's vitality by the strenuousness and hopefulness of the promoters of growth and greatness, came to consider Chicago's claim a certain realization. The people of St. Louis should gain from Chicago's experience. Relations of doleful tales should be put under a ban with traducers and conspirators. St. Louis is prosperous and progressive, and the transformation now in process gives full prospect of achievement as great as Chicago's. Therefore, let the pleasant account of our city's advancement be circulated enthusiastically by every one and all. The world hasn't time to heed melanchollies.

The lighting bill of the city has been made 40 per cent lighter by the Wells administration. After the municipal plants for lighting public buildings shall have been put in commission, as has been arranged for, the bills will be still lower. Good government has its actual benefits, after all, and ropes are not needed at the City Hall.

A thousand-dollar bill would have been very useful when anthracite was as costly as diamonds. It still has a function. The ice-man is still with us and is preparing to begin where the coal man left off; while beef and provisions are moving up and the fruit crop complains of late frosts.

The Civic Improvement League offers rewards to children for aiding in making and keeping the city clean. This is well. There may be more spotless and white faces downtown this summer than usual.

RECENT COMMENT.

Are We Too Boastful?

Leslie's Weekly.

The Spanish War of 1898, supplemented by the Venezuelan episode of 1902-1903, has incited outbursts of spread-eagleism in the United States which are seen to be absurd when put to the test of fact. This, however, is only a revival of an old American trait. Before the Revolution, when he was a loyal subject of George III, Benjamin Franklin told the House of Commons that America was doubling in population every quarter of a century, and that he was destined to keep up this rate of growth to an indefinite period in the future. If that forecast had turned out to be correct we would have had in the neighborhood of 100,000,000 people in 1903, instead of 75,000,000 which Census Director Merriam's assistants found here. Jefferson, early in his presidency, figured that the country would have 80,000,000 inhabitants by 1875, but it had only 40,000,000. Lincoln said during the Civil War that if the Union was preserved there would be 125,000,000 Americans by 1900, which, as we see, was a long way from the mark.

We have been marvelously fortunate in the character of our foreign enemies—diminutive and civil-war-distracted Mexico and dying Spain—in the past two-thirds of a century. Our easy victories may have given us false ideas of our power. We have maintained the Monroe doctrine thus far successfully. But Germany is increasing her colonies in Brazil and other South American countries. Her navy, slightly larger than ours, is increasing at a much faster rate than ours. It is believed to be the Kaiser's intention to ultimately put the Monroe Doctrine to the test of war, and when his naval programme is carried out, a few years hence, he can easily find a pretext in the volcanic politics of South America for the invasion of that section for the protection of his subjects.

No Panic This Time.

Cleveland Leader.

It has long been an accepted theory of panic and periods of commercial and financial trouble that they begin every ten years, or at about such intervals. A large part of the business men of the United States have recalled with misgivings the fact that the last financial convulsion came ten years ago, and they have been less confident of the continuation of the good times which have been enjoyed for the last few years than they would have been if the usual interval between panics were not just ending. The feeling of uneasiness was natural, in the light of American commercial and financial records.

But it is time to consider the point settled that there will be a break in the line of precedents which have made a large part of the business authorities in the country look for a panic every tenth year. The industrial and commercial outlook for 1903 is so good that no reason whatever can be given for expecting a crisis this year. At worst, there will be more than ten years between the last panic and the next one. That is so much gained for the hopeful view of business prospects.

Race for Naval Superiority.

Harper's Weekly.

The most important significance of this extensive plan of naval building is that the United States is actively and persistently in the race for naval superiority, and that on paper—that is, until the boats now being built by this and other countries are actually in service—the United States is already the third naval power in the world. It has passed Russia and Germany, and is fast approaching France. It will probably never overtake Great Britain, but it may catch up to France in a few years if the present rate of increase is maintained. Here are the figures of tonnage, built and building, of the chief naval powers, as gathered by the Navy Department and published under the date of November 30, 1902: Great Britain, 524 ships of a tonnage of 1,807,874; France, 463 ships and a tonnage of 804,724; United States, 133 ships and a tonnage of 578,741; Russia, 275 ships and a tonnage of 509,568; Germany, 225 ships and a tonnage of 453,428.

The Difference.

Baltimore American.

A New York State Judge has decided that when husband and wife die at the same time the wife dies first. In New York this is a decision in Ireland it would have been a law.

JOSEPH WALKER WEAR WEDS MISS POTTER OF PHILADELPHIA.

Marriage of St. Louis Man and the Daughter of a Former Minister to Italy a Brilliant Event in the Quaker City—Presbyterian Ministers Take a Prominent Part in the Marriage of Miss Cale and the Reverend Mr. Rauch—Other Weddings.



MRS. GERARD PARSONS WHO WAS MISS FLORENCE BOWMAN.
MRS. CHARLES MATTHIAS RAUCH, WHO WAS MISS MANETTE CALE.
UNTIL LAST EVENING.
MRS. FRANK GRAHAM MOORHEAD, WHO WAS MISS MILDRED RHORER.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Philadelphia, Pa., April 14.—One of the most brilliant weddings of the season was solemnized today in St. Paul's Protestant Episcopal Church at Chestnut Hill, when Miss Adeline Coleman Potter, daughter of William A. Potter, former Minister to Italy, became the wife of Thomas Walker Wear of New York.

Not only because of the gathering of prominent persons who attended it, but also because of the richness of the decorations and the beauty of the gowns displayed, the wedding was magnificent. The altar of the church was draped with white, and a large cross, made of white flowers, stood behind the altar. The bride wore a gown of white satin, trimmed with ermine and carried a bouquet of white roses. The bridesmaids wore gowns of white, and the bridesmaids' dresses were trimmed with white flowers. The wedding was a most brilliant affair, and the guests were most numerous. The wedding was a most brilliant affair, and the guests were most numerous.

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